

REMARKS

In the November 12, 2004 Office Action, the drawings and claims 1-8 and 10-21 were objected because of the informalities while claim 9 was indicated as allowed. The application was indicated as being in condition for allowance except for formal matters.

Status of Claims and Amendments

In response to the November 12, 2004 Office Action, Applicant has amended the drawings and claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15 as indicated above. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter and the thorough examination of this application. Thus, claims 1-21 are pending, with claims 1, 9, 11 and 13 being the only independent claims. Allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested in view of above amendments and the following comments.

Entry of November 7, 2003 Preliminary Amendment

In paragraph 1 of the Office Action, the Office Action indicates that Applicant's November 7, 2003 Preliminary Amendment has been entered.

Drawings

In paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the drawings were objected to because the blocks shown in Figure 1 do not contain suitable legends. In response, Applicant has filed herewith a replacement sheet of drawing including amended Figure 1 with suitable legends.

Applicant believes that the drawings are now overcome the objections. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections.

Claim Objections

In paragraph 6 of the Office Action, claims 1-8 and 10-21 were objected to for the informalities. More specifically, the Office Action pointed out several typographical errors in claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15. In response, Applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15 to correct the errors in these claims.

Applicant believes that the claims 1-8 and 10-21 are now correct. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

In paragraphs 7-9 of the Office Action, claims 1-21 were indicated as being distinguishable over the prior art. Claims 1-8 and 10-21 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter if amended to overcome the above objections, and claim 9 is indicated as allowed. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter and the thorough examination of this application. In response, Applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15 as mentioned above. Thus, claims 1-21 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

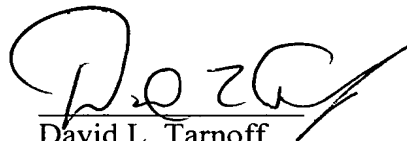
Prior Art Citation

In the Office Action, additional prior art references were made of record. Applicant believes that these references do not render the claimed invention obvious.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and comments, Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 1-21 are now in condition for allowance. Allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached replacement sheet of drawing includes changes to Figure 1. This replacement sheet, which includes amended Figure 1, replaces the original sheet including Figure 1.

In the attached replacement sheet of drawing, Figure 1 is amended such that the blocks shown in Figure 1 contain suitable legends.

Attachment: one (1) replacement sheet